Noun Phrases in Cotzal Ixil

Phonemes

Figure 1 shows the phonemes of the Cotzal dialect to aid the reader in understanding the material presented in the paper. Morphophonemic variations have been regularized for the most part. Note that the chart does not include Spanish loans like /tʸ/ that are not well assimilated into Ixil. /ř/ is a notable exception, so it is included in the chart.

Though stress is not completely predictable on the word level, it will not be considered contrastive for this study. Sentence intonational stress generally falls on the next to the last syllable. Words are generally stressed on the penult or, if the vowel in the final syllable is either long or laryngealized, on the ultima. For the most part, Spanish loan words retain their original stress pattern.

Low contrastive pitch is represented in this paper as V̀•. It is a suprasegmental phoneme occurring only in roots with a final long vowel.

All the labial consonants are bilabial except for /v/, which is labiodental. The labialized stops occur in only a handful of words. The only stop that is voiced is /ɓ/.

	Labial	Alveolar	Alveopalatal	Retroflexed	Velar	Postvelar	Glottal
Stop	p	t			k	q	ʔ
Glottalized Stop	ɓ	t'			k'	q'	
Labialized Stop	pʷ				kʷ		
Affricate		ȼ	č	ç̌			
Glottalized Affricate		ȼ'	č'	ç̌'			
Fricative	v	s	š	ṣ̌			h
Nasal	m	n					
Resonant		l, ř	y				

Vowels:	Short	Long	Laryngealized
	i	i•	iʔ
	u	u•	uʔ
	e	e•	eʔ
	o	o•	oʔ
	a	a•	aʔ

Low Pitch: V̀•

Figure 1. Phonemic Inventory

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